Rick Hull, Software Engineer for hire

Rick Hull

Software Engineer
https://github.com/rickhull

Objective

I seek to join a team that builds highly available systems to address important problems and business opportunities. My teammates and I would share my passion for excellence in engineering while recognizing that quality software development is both art and science. My strengths and interest are in the areas of devops, automation, infrastructure, library and API development, and other forms of back-end programming.

Key Qualifications

- Broad understanding of machine learning techniques
- Several years of hardcore cloud computing experience from inside and out
- Recognition that we live in a distributed world and must (eventually) respond with distributed solutions
- Startup mentality: see a gap, fill a gap (many hats)
- Extensive experience designing and implementing applications, libraries, and tools using object-oriented and functional methodologies
- Rapid absorption and adoption of unfamiliar technologies
- Excellent problem-solving and critical-thinking skills

Experience

Senior Software Engineer - Axio Global, Inc

2021

- Achieved increasingly advanced front-end development objectives using React and Typescript
- Rewrote Monte Carlo simulation for monetary impacts of cybersecurity risk scenarios, replacing a misguided and buggy implementation.

- Revamped and documented the onboarding procedure for new devs, reducing time spent from over a week to around a day.

Driving Instructor - Porsche Experience Center

2018 - 2024

- Delivered critical safety and technical information via clear communication to a diverse set of customers
- Built countless trusting relationships to solve problems and ensure the best outcomes, maximizing smiles, satisfaction, and confidence
- Focused on customer success, adapting programs to meet people where they are

Senior Infrastructure Engineer - Returnly

2016

- Revamped AWS infrastructure for hygiene, minimalism, and consistency
- Created async Kinesis (Kafka) client for Ruby using aws-sdk
- Revamped internal and external schemas for minimalism and consistency
- Created YAML-based autogenerated client integration documentation

Senior Devops Engineer - Glassdoor

2015-2016

- Took ownership of devops/chef repo within one week
- Significantly increased deployment reliability within one month
- Successfully drove a vision of immutable infrastructure as code to effective completion
- Instrumental in launch of new Solr-based search platform in both AWS and Rackspace public cloud
- Solely responsible for devops, deployment, admin, security in a hybrid cloud environment (AWS and Rackspace)

Software Engineer - Cloudscaling

2013-2014

- Re-engineered primary *REST API* for improved consistency, predictability, regularity, RESTfulness, discoverability, and simplicity of implementation while maintaining backwards compatibility
- Tackled the massive, hairy problem of testing and verifying the software that provides a *cloud platform*:
    - Integrating dozens of mostly-independent software projects
    - Building a new cloud for each code change
    - Reducing test cycle durations
    - Isolating test infrastructure failures from product failures

- – Eliminating leftover state between test runs
  - – Overcoming nested virtualization and networking issues when the test environment requires virtual nodes to represent physical nodes
- Pushed *Jenkins* to and beyond the breaking point, using tools like *jenkins-job-builder* and *docker* to compensate

Software Engineer - Planet Payment

2005-2013

- Created QA department from scratch
- Built financial transaction clients and servers across a range of formats and framing protocols
- Developed 50kLOC of automation libraries and tools in Ruby to facilitate automated testing
- Created black-box regression testing suite, load-testing clients, mock servers, and test harnesses for isolating system functionality
- Developed encoders, decoders, network clients and servers for ISO8583 and EIS1080 message formats, among others
- Eliminated points of failure by introducing development and deployment policies

Skills

Software Development

Languages

- Ruby *10+ years*
  - – Rails, Sinatra *2 years*
- Python *2 years*
- Nix
- JavaScript, React, TypeScript, CoffeeScript
- Elixir, Erlang, BEAM
- Perl, PHP, C, Java
- Racket, Scheme, Common Lisp

Tech

- Hashicorp, Chef, Ansible, SaltStack, Jenkins
- TCP network programming, clients and servers
- Redis, PostgreSQL, MySQL
- AWS and Rackspace cloud automation
- JVM ecosystem
- OpenStack ecosystem

System Administration

- Linux (Debian / Ubuntu > NixOS > Arch > Red Hat) *10+ years*
- AWS infrastructure as code (+ Rackspace)
- Hashicorp, Chef, Ansible, SaltStack, Jenkins
- Solr, Zookeeper, Rails
- Redis, PostgreSQL, MySQL
- VMware, XenServer, Hyper-V

Education

Tulane University School of Engineering

- B.S. Computer Science
- 3.6 Major GPA

Honors

- Distinguished Scholar Award *4 years*
- Consistently named to Dean's List *4 years*
- National Merit Scholar
- Lexmark Scholar

References available upon request